

**Diane Hayn, President - Caron's Corner**  
**Testimony in Opposition to HB No. 6033 An Act Concerning the Inclusion of**  
**Juices, Teas and Sports Drinks under CT's Bottle Bill**

Good Afternoon Senator Kennedy and Representative Albis and members of the Environment Committee. My name is Diane Hayn and I am one of the owners of Caron's Corner, Inc. in Branford, CT.

We have been in business since 1973 and employ 43 associates in our store.

I am here in opposition to HB No. 6033- An Act Concerning the Inclusion of Juices, Teas, and Sports Drinks under Connecticut's Bottle Bill.

My biggest concern is that customers are asked to bring their "garbage" and dirty containers back to Food Stores!

Not only are we asked to handle their garbage; but we are also asked to store mass amounts of this garbage in our stores till recycling trucks arrive.

I don't know of any grocery store in CT that could implement the requirement of this bill. This would be a tremendous hardship for all of us. We are not permitted nor could we afford to make additions to our building to accommodate this and I assume most business owners are in the same position.

Customers routinely dump their bottles and cans directly into our carts, the same carts that you and the next customer will put their fresh meats and vegetables in.

Bags of sticky, dirty bottles and containers attract Rats, Mice, Cockroaches, Ants and other. We pretreat by having an exterminator come once a month to "Help" prevent these creatures, but you can only do so much with garbage! These bags are then handled by the employees of our food store. Yes they wash their hand after; but things happen.

Customers do not wash the items they put into our machines. The machines are covered in a constant drip of soda and beer. They are crushed and shredded by these machines into plastic bags at the base of the machines. Emptying the machine requires an attendant to open these machines and remove the bags. The material now in this

form, pierces through the plastic pouring sticky liquid everywhere. Many bags break, covering the attendant's clothes and other with sticky garbage. Now the attendant must transport these bags to the storage area. Dripping all the way! Do you then want this employees to handle your food. I don't care how much you wash...garbage is garbage does not belong in Food Store.

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